

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

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STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, RP

SUBJECT: POLITICAL ASYLUM FOR FILIPINOS

REF: MANILA 2617

1. WE KNOW OF THREE SPECIFIC CASES WHERE UNHCR HAS CERTIFIED FILIPINOS AS REFUGEES.

A. ALVAREZ HAS LETTER DATED JUNE 9, 1975, FROM WARREN A. PINEGAR OF UNHCR REGIONAL OFFICE AT UN HEADQUARTERS NEW YORK STATING "HE IS CONSIDERED TO BE A REFUGEE UNDER THE MANDATE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES."

B. MARY ROSE EZPELETA (JACINTO) HAS LETTER DATED DECEMBER 20, 1973, FROM VIRENDRA DAYAL OF THE UNHCR NEW YORK OFFICE STATING THAT AFTER CONSULTATION WITH HIS HEADQUARTERS IN GENEVA AND OFFICE IN ROME "IT APPEARS MRS. EZPELETA IS A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REFUGEE WITHIN THE MANDATE OF THE UNHCR AND THAT SHE SHOULD,

ACCORDINGLY, BE GRANTED THE STATUS ENVISAGED IN THE 1967
PROTOCOL."

C. DAVID MARTINEZ HAS A NOTE VERBALE DATED FEBRUARY 7,
1974, FROM THE UN INFORMATION CENTER IN TOKYO STATING "THE

UNHCR CONSIDERS THAT MR. MARTINEZ FALLS WITHIN THE MANDATE
OF HIS OFFICE. THE HIGH COMMISSIONER HAS CONFIRMED THAT
MR. MARTINEZ HAS BEEN ASSURED RESETTLEMENT ASSISTANCE IN
CANADA."

2. WHILE DEPT. DOES MAKE NOTE OF UNHCR CERTIFICATION IF
ASYLUM APPLICANTS HAVE SUCH CERTIFICATION, DEPT. CON-
SIDERS ASYLUM REQUESTS INDEPENDENTLY AND MAKES ITS
RECOMMENDATION TO THE INS BASED ON THE INDIVIDUAL MERITS
OF EACH CASE. WE DO NOT ASK FOR OR REQUIRE UNHCR CERTI-
FICATION IN ORDER TO CONSIDER AN APPLICATION FOR REFUGEE
STATUS.

3. THE INFORMATION IN PARA 1 ABOVE IS FOR THE EMBASSY'S
INFORMATION ONLY AND SHOULD NOT BE DISCUSSED WITH THE GOP.
INGERSOLL

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